

From the desk of the Manager

A Day to Honor our Linemen

A few weeks ago we took a little time out of our morning to honor the Cedar-Knox linemen on national "Lineman Appreciation Day" by serving them breakfast here at the office. It's fitting that this profession is recognized with a special day since they really do have unique skills and being a lineman is certainly not for

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everyone. While a lineman's equipment continues to evolve in a very good way, the hard work and danger remains part of their day. It takes a special person to do electric line work and until you actually stand at the top of an icy pole in the middle of the night, supported by two small climbing spikes strapped to your feet, surrounded by lethal voltage, in a raging blizzard, it's hard to comprehend the job that they do. A lineman must be strong, fit and intelligent, with duties that include climbing, building, designing, lumberjacking, digging and heavy

equipment operation. Our employees adjust to an ever-changing industry and must deal with continually increasing complexity and system capacity. Our guys put their lives in each other's hands on a daily basis and must comprehend complicated circuitry and safely carry out switching and work procedures on very high voltage. There simply are not a lot of second chances in their line of work and they must maintain a very high level of mental awareness to safely carry out their jobs.

I've been extremely proud to be associated with the Cedar-Knox Public Power District for each of my 35 years here. But probably not more so than after the massive tornado ripped through a large area in the southeastern part our district back on June 17, 2014. Our linemen were faced with roughly 200 broken poles and many miles of lines and electric infrastructure were strewn around in a tangled mess. Irrigation season was looming and thousands of Cedar-Knox consumers were left without power in the storm's aftermath. After initially patching parts of the system and rerouting circuits to quickly restore temporary electric service to our consumer's homes and businesses,

Cedar-Knox employees simply rolled up their sleeves and attacked the rebuilding project. Not only did our people work many long, hard hours to put our electric system back together again in time for irrigation season, but there were also some other Cedar-Knox employees that took the time after work to help walk fields on several nights and weekends, helping farmers, friends and neighbors clear debris and put their lives back together. I was never so proud to be part of an effort, and the performance of our entire team during that time, left a lasting impression on me.

So please join me to salute not only our linemen, but also every other Cedar-Knox employee that works so hard to make Cedar-Knox a special place, and to keep your electric service safe and reliable.



Dan Leise

Memorial Day & Summer Hours

Memorial Day Closed May 29th.

Summer hours begin May 30th. The

Cedar-Knox PPD office will be open from

7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday through September 1, 2017. Have a great summer.

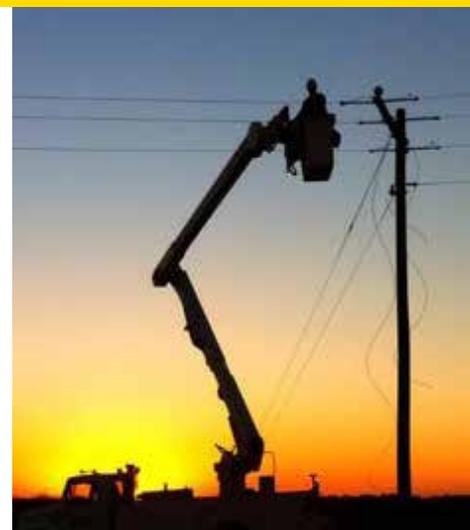
Lineman Appreciation Breakfast

April 10th was National Lineman Appreciation Day. Because of scheduling, we chose to honor the lineman on April 18th by serving them breakfast. They are usually ready to eat anytime. Just like they are ready to serve you the customer anytime.

We have a very experienced line crew with many years of experience. All who have been or are currently lineman are; Rod Goeden, Pat Feilmeier, Corey Fischer, Corey Strat-

man, Mike Lammers, Reggie Hochstein, Doug Miller, Tim Loberg, Matt Sudbeck, Tom Potts, Troy Joachimsen, Forrest Dendinger, John Freeman, Eric Becker, Brad Steffen, Nathan Rutar, Dustin Neuhalfen, Brian Kruse, Jeff Feilmeier, Gary Wiese and Dan Leise.

Thanks to each of you for the vital role you play in keeping the lights on. Your dedication is our assurance that power is restored quickly and efficiently. Thank you.



Mike Lammers Graduates from the Management Internship Program

Cedar-Knox PPD's employee, Mike Lammers has completed an intensive program in electric utility management with the University of Wisconsin, - Madison. The Robert I. Kabat Management Internship Program (MIP) is a series of workshops offered by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association in conjunction with the University of Wisconsin. The program guides participants through all facets of the electric utility industry, including the many changes occurring around the nation.

MIP participants go through three 10-day sessions designed to challenge and educate participants in new, innovative management

techniques. Participants leave with a better understanding of what consumers want and how to ensure they get it.

By also covering the unique principles that govern the operations of electric cooperatives and public power districts, the program helps the utility to analyze other business ventures it may want to enter into, as well as enhancing the core organization.

Only rural electric cooperative and public power district employees participate in the program.

Congratulations to Mike Lammers for successfully completing this elite course.

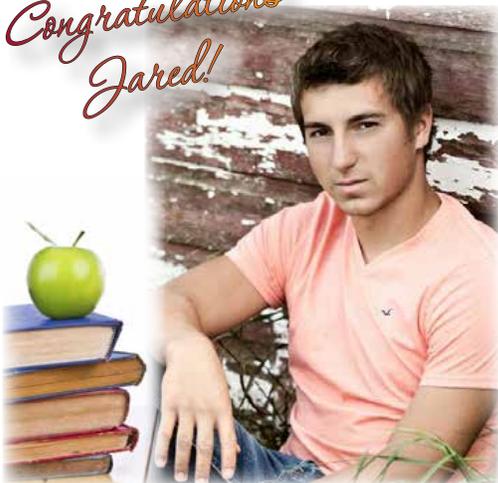


Mike Lammers (left) and Gary Pfann, Program Director NRECA.

Wiebelhaus Awarded Scholarship

Jared Wiebelhaus is the recipient of the Harold Martindale Memorial Scholarship for Utility Line Program at NE Community College, Norfolk, NE. This \$1000 scholarship is awarded to Jared for his second year in this program which will be this coming fall. Jared graduated from Cedar Catholic in 2015. He participated in football, basketball, and track. He currently attends NECC in Norfolk. His parents are Bob and JoAnn Wiebelhaus of Fordyce, NE. His favorite activity is baseball, which he is currently in his second year of playing baseball for the Crofton Blue Jays and he is also coaching the Hartington Pony baseball team this summer. He enjoys spending time with his family and friends and in the winter months he like to hunt and trap.

Congratulations Jared!

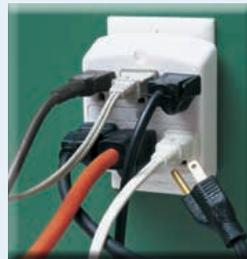


May Is Electrical Safety Month

May is Electrical Safety Month. Take a few minutes to look around for electrical hazards in your home and correct them.

Don't Overload Circuits or Daisy Chain Extension Cords and Power Strips

One way to prevent electrical fires is to practice electrical safety. Fires often start when too many things are plugged into a single outlet or circuit, overloading them.



Keep Furniture from Pinching Cords; Use Correct Wattage Light Bulbs

A cord can easily become pinched by heavy furniture and over time eventually lead to a fire. Don't run cords underneath rugs; it's both a trip and a fire hazard. Unplug appliances by grasping the plug; don't pull by the cord. Use the correct wattage light bulbs in lamps and fixtures.

Give Electrical Systems a Tune-Up Every 10 Years

The need to plug many things into a single outlet or reliance on extension cords, are signs to have an electrician review your system. Fire officials recommend having a licensed electrician review a home's electrical system every ten years. Small upgrades and simple safety checks like making sure

outdoor grounds and connections are secure can prevent larger problems.

Know the Warning Signs

Call a professional electrician soon if you have any of these warning signs:

- Frequently blown fuses or tripped circuit breakers;
- Dim or flickering lights, bulbs that wear out too fast;
- Overheated plugs, cords or switches;
- Shock or mild tingle – more than normal static electricity;
- Loose outlets or unusually warm or faulty outlets or switches.

Don't Charge Your Cell Phone or Laptop in Bed

There have been a number of fires from cell phones charging underneath pillows and laptops left running on top of the bed covers. Cell phones and laptops are always processing when running or charging. Blocking or covering them can prevent air from cooling the batteries and lead to a fire. Failures of lithium ion batteries are more likely to occur during recharging. These devices should be charged while on a hard surface.